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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in the Area of Mechanized Division Eggesin

EVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 22 November 1954

REFERENCES  25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS  This is UNEVALUATED  
Information

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1. In mid-October, most units stationed at Karpin engaged mainly in maintenance activities. Several motor vehicles were already subject to conservation measures which were scheduled to be completed by 30 November. In each section of the installation, however, some alert vehicles had to be left ready for use. Some NCOs and EM were absent as harvest laborers. 1 25X1
2. Weapons and motor vehicles observed in Karpin on 14 October included:
  - Section A: 50 x 120-mm mortars and 50 Horch trucks;
  - Section B: 40 x 122-mm howitzers and 40 heavy trucks, 7 x 57-mm AT guns, 15 armored personnel carriers, 10 armored scout cars, 4 T-34/85 tanks, 60 sidecar motorcycles;
  - Section C: 20 T-34/85 tanks, 7 x 57-mm AT guns, 12 armored personnel carriers, 10 armored scout cars, 60 to 70 trucks. 1
3. Those fields of training in which the respective unit had failed to attain the training status required prior to the spring inspection were made a part of the fall inspections at the mechanized regiments of Division Eggesin. Several generals and, in late September, also Minister of the Interior Stoph were present at the inspections which lasted until 3 October. As was the case in the preceding years, the best aggregate results at exercises and inspection were attained by the 1st Mecz Regt; In consideration of these achievements, officers, NCOs and EM of this unit received valuable awards. At the 2d Mecz Regt, special mention was made of the good status of training of the tank battalion. 25X1
4. During the night of 30 September, a corps-level command-post exercise, which was scheduled to be held in the Neubrandenburg area from 30 September to 2 October, was called off for unknown reasons. 25X1
5. Eighty-one officers, NCOs and EM, of the 2d Mecz Regt in Karpin, **of whom were sick or unreliable** were scheduled to be discharge on 21 October. The number of those who hoped for discharge was larger. Officers identified with Division Eggesin included Lieutenant Colonel 25X1

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Stechbarth, Horst, commander of the 1st Lecz Regt; Major Meckel (fnu) commander of the 2d Lecz Regt; and Captain Wolff (fnu), chief of staff of the 2d Lecz Regt, who allegedly attended a tactical training course which was held in Naumburg in September. 2

7. Records of the Eggesin billeting office indicated that the mortar regiment of Mechanized Division Eggesin had an authorized strength of 107 officers, 155 NCOs and 597 M1, and an actual strength of 101 officers, 139 NCOs and 474 M1.

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8. In late September and early October, almost all men of the AAA unit commanded by Major Rau (fnu) which numbered about 400 soldiers were in Altwarp. During this period, the units were inspected by about four high-ranking Soviet officers and several high-ranking KVP officers. The inspection also involved artillery and infantry combat training, firing practices with AA machine guns and political indoctrination. The crew of each 37-mm AA gun numbered 8 men which number included the chief of section and the truck driver. An ammunition truck with a driver and 2 men was assigned to every 3 guns.
9. Officers of the AAA unit included Major Rau (fnu), commander; Captain Petrov (fnu), chief of staff; Captain Schaedlich (fnu), political officer; and Captain Knuth (fnu), supply officer.
10. After the inspection, most men of the AA unit were detached to root-harvesting. Excluding officers, hardly 50 men were in the Altwarp installation on 30 October. During that time, there were only limited activities which included theoretical instruction.
11. About a third of the AAA unit were KVPs who served a three-year term. Eight KVPs were discharged on 25 October. Many KVPs decided to re-enlist under the influence of various promises. The arrival of recruits has been expected for a long time. The AAA unit had two barracks buildings the one of which was still empty. The building to house the workshop was scheduled to be completed by 21 December. In October, the number of motor vehicles in stock was increased by the arrival of 4 repair-shop trucks.
12. In late October, the driving-school unit which was quartered in the third (easternmost) barracks building of the Altwarp installation numbered about 200 men excluding cadre personnel. The KVPs detached to root-harvesting had returned. The motorcycles of the unit had to be shipped away, allegedly to Eggesin. 3
13. During the people's elections, the KVPs in Altwarp were on the alert.

Comment. The units of Mechanized Division Eggesin which are stationed at Karpin still include the mortar regiment and the engineer battalion which are quartered in Section A of the barracks installation, the howitzer artillery regiment and the

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motorcycle battalion which are quartered in Section B of the installation, the 1st Mecz Regt which is quartered in Section C of the installation, the 2d Mecz Regt which is quartered in Section D of the installation, and the 3d Mecz Regt which is quartered in Section E of the installation.

[REDACTED] Comment. An infantry officer school is known to be located in Naumburg. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Comment. The old motorcycles were possibly exchanged for new ones.

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